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highways which have been constructed, the great increase in the railway mileage, and the improvement in interisland transportation outside of ports of entry, cholera has spread with much greater rapidity than was the case when the means of communication were not as well established as now. This disadvantage has been in part offset by the improved organization and by the fact that it is more simple now to rush supplies and men over these better roads.

During the past 2 weeks most of the cholera cases have been found in persons who were reported to have died of meningitis. Out of 10 cases that were reported with this diagnosis, in 8, on autopsy, the cholera organism was recovered from the intestines. Owing to these erroneous diagnoses, the bureau of health is having autopsies made upon all cases in which there could be any possible doubt as to the cause of the death. In this way a number of additional cholera cases has been found. The disease shows no tendency to spread, and it is now hoped that a general outbreak can be avoided.

Consular bills of health issued: October 4, to the United States army transport *Dix*; personnel inspected on board prior to sailing. October 4, to the British steamship *Glenlyon*; personnel inspected on board prior to sailing. October 8, to the British steamship *Oceano*; personnel inspected on board at hour of sailing.

#### RUSSIA.

##### *Libau—Cholera in St. Petersburg—Examination of emigrants.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon De Forest reports, October 23:

Week ended October 22. In St. Petersburg there were 116 cases of cholera with 35 deaths. October 20, the steamship *Russia* sailed from Libau for New York with 1,106 passengers and 150 members of crew. All were in good physical condition and had been detained in Libau 5 days under observation. Three hundred and thirty-seven pieces of baggage were disinfected by formaldehyde gas.

#### ST. LUCIA ISLAND.

##### *Castries—Inspection of vessels.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Maylie reports, October 11 and 18:

Week ended October 9. Vessels inspected, 12; fumigated, 10. Week ended October 16. Vessels inspected, 9; fumigated, 8.

Sanitary condition of port and island good. No quarantinable diseases reported.

#### SUMATRA.

##### *Cholera on the east coast.*

Consul Rairden at Batavia, Java, reports, September 29:

Cholera has appeared at Palembang, east coast of Sumatra, and September 28 this place was officially declared infected.